Convention on International Trade in endangered species

3922. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been slapped with a commercial trade ban by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);

(b) whether it is a fact that the rap is for not complying with requirements on a separate law to specifically protect wild animals and plant life listed by the UN administered CITES;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware of the fact that this decision would adversely affect the trade of medicinal plants and essential oils; and

(d) if so, the action proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) At present there is no such ban on India. An Advisory was issued to all the Parties on 24.12.2004 by CITES to suspend commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with India due to non-compliance of an earlier commitment to have a CITES specific legislation. On receipt of a legislation plan from India, the said recommendation has been withdrawn on 14.03.2005.

(c) and (d) India does not have much of commercial trade in CITES listed species and hence the impact of the restrictions for a brief period had been negligible.

Tiger reserves in terrorism affected areas

† 3923. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to dereserve tiger reserves of terrorism affected area covered under tiger project; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.